

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 4, 8, 12, and 14. Please amend Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, and 13. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (currently amended) A network router comprising:
 - a plurality of trunk ports, including a composite port of plural ports to plural trunks which serve as a composite trunk to a common destination;
 - a routing fabric for transfer of data packets between trunk ports; and
 - an output port selector which selects an output port for a packet from a composite port, the output port selector balancing load across the trunks of a composite trunk according to adjustable weighting ~~selectable weights~~.
2. (canceled)
3. (currently amended) A network router comprising:
 - a plurality of trunk ports, including a composite port of plural ports to plural trunks which serve as a composite trunk to a common destination;
 - a routing fabric for transfer of data packets between trunk ports; and
 - an output port selector which selects an output port for a packet from a composite port according to a table ~~an output port mapping~~, the table routes ~~output port mapping~~ being adjustable.
4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A method of routing packets in a network comprising:
 - identifying a destination of the packets;
 - selecting one of plural trunks forming a composite trunk to the destination, the trunk being selected with adjustable weighting ~~according to selectable weights~~ to balance load across the trunks of a composite trunk; and
 - forwarding the packets toward the destination on the selected trunk.
6. (canceled)
7. (currently amended) A method of routing packets in a network comprising:
 - identifying a destination of the packets;
 - selecting one of plural trunks forming a composite trunk to the destination, the trunk being selected according to a table ~~an output trunk mapping~~, the table routes ~~output trunk mapping~~ being adjustable; and
 - forwarding the packets toward the destination on the selected trunk.
8. (canceled)
9. (original) A method as claimed in Claim 5 wherein the destination of the packets is identified from a final destination identifier included in the packet.
10. (original) A method as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the network is the Internet and the packets are routed under an Internet protocol.
11. (currently amended) A router as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the table ~~output port mapping~~ is dynamically adjustable to balance load across the trunks of a composite trunk.

12. (canceled)
13. (currently amended) A method as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the table ~~output-trunk~~
~~mapping~~ is dynamically adjustable to balance load across the trunks of a composite trunk.
14. (canceled)